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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 06530.0290

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Thomas O. BALES et al.)
Reissue Application for)
Patent No.: 6,024,708) Prior Group Art Unit: 3736
Original Patent Issue Date:) Prior Examiner: S. Gilbert
February 15, 2000)
For: RADIAL JAW BIOPSY FORCEPS)

Box REISSUE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the filing of this reissue application.

The listed documents were either previously submitted by applicants or cited by the Examiner in related applications of the present reissue application (i.e., 07/521,766 filed on May 10, 1990, 07/837,046 filed on February 18, 1992, 08/458,215 filed on June 2, 1995, 08/928,453 September 12, 1997, and 09/414,366 filed on October 12, 1999), upon which applicants rely for the benefits provided in 35 U.S.C. § 120. Copies of the listed documents were previously submitted in those related applications. If the Examiner should be unable to locate any such documents, the Examiner is invited to

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

contact the undersigned at (202) 408-4140 and copies will be provided. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

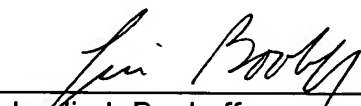
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 14, 2002

By: 
Leslie I. Bookoff
Reg. No. 38,084

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com